

ARKANSAS STATE PLANT BOARD
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WWW.PLANTBOARD.ORG/PLANT_APIARY.HTML
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APIARY NEWSLETTER

December 2009

APIARY LAWS

The Apiary Section has completed thirteen scheduled Apiary Law meetings. At these meeting we have collected many oral and written comments to be handed over to the Interim Study Committee. Once the members of the Interim Study Committee are selected and a date is set for them to meet to discuss the Apiary Law we will send that information to you.

If you would like to schedule a meeting for your area please contact the Apiary Office. Any new meeting will be posted on our website at: www.plantboard.org. once on the home page – click on *Apiary Law Changes*. We will also send out notification of the meetings to the surrounding area beekeepers two weeks before the meeting, and the meetings will be listed in newsletters (if the information is available by print date).

All comments collected will be turned over to the Interim Study Committee. Comments will not be altered in any way. The Interim Study Committee will review each comment and use that information in forming a new Apiary Law. I urge every beekeeper to submit comments, and I ask that the comments be detailed so that anyone reading the submitted comments can understand the intent of the comment. I do not believe that there is a beekeeper on the Interim Study Committee so I want you to write detailed comments that can be reviewed and understood efficiently.

If you attended one of these meetings and did not submit a comment, or if do not plan to attend any of the meetings and would like to submit a comment you can do so by the information provided below.

Comments will be taken at the meetings, by email at: mark.stoll@aspb.ar.gov, you can send them directly to a member of the Agriculture Committee, or by mail at:

Apiary Section- Arkansas State Plant Board
Attn: Mark Stoll
P.O. Box 1069
Little Rock, AR 72203

BEEES ON THE MOVE

It is that time of year again when beekeepers are getting contracts for pollination in far off states, and getting all their Hives in a row.

If you are planning on your bees traveling out of state for pollination, or if you are bringing bees into the state you will need the following items:

- 1) IRFA (Fire ant) and regular inspections will be available upon request.
 - Inspections will need to be set up at least five (5) days in advance.
- 2) A valid Certificate of Health will be need for re-entry.

The Apiary Office will mail out a letter to all migratory beekeepers that have traveled out of the state over the last two years. If you planning to travel out of the state for pollination and do not receive this letter you will need to contact our office and one will be sent to you.

You can contact us at (501) 225-1598.

**BEGINNING BEEKEEPING
CLASSES**

The University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service is offering a series of Beginning Beekeeping courses in different locations around the state this winter. Courses will cover a variety of topics, including honey bee biology and pest management. Classes are intended as an introductory course for new beekeepers a refresher course for the

experienced. Classes will be presented free of charge and open to both beekeepers and the non-beekeeping public. Here are four locations set for these classes:

Northwest Arkansas Beekeepers Association
Where: Pauline Whitaker Animal Science Center (Fayetteville)
When: 6:00-9:00 pm, Jan 11, 18, 25, Feb 1

West Arkansas Eastern Oklahoma Beekeepers Association
Where: Janet Huckabee Arkansas River Valley Nature Center (Ft Smith)
When: 6:00-9:00 pm, January 19, 26, 2, Feb 2

Ouachita Beekeeping Association
Where: Rich Mountain Community College (Mena), Lecture Hall in the Spencer Building
When: 6:00-9:00 pm, Feb 8, 15, 22, March 1

Ozark Foothills Beekeeping Association
Where: Petit Jean Electric Coop (Clinton)
When: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, January 30

If you are interested in attending one of these meetings please contact Jon Zawislak at 501-671-2222, or by email at jzawislak@uaex.edu.

NEWS FROM THE HILL

Dr. Don Steinkraus's, University of Arkansas, lab has been studying the seasonal prevalence of *Nosema ceranae* in Arkansas honey bee colonies. Workers are examined weekly and spore loads quantified. The results indicate that *Nosema ceranae* is not a primary cause of Colony Collapse Disorder, at least, not in Arkansas.

Dr. Steinkraus recently spoke at the Arkansas State Beekeepers's Annual meeting in Mountain View on October 9, 2009. He discussed song bird predation on honey bees, the role of both European and African honey bees in stinging incidents of domestic animals, and beekeeping in Bolivia.

Dr. Steinkraus's article on observations of summer tanager's feeding on honey bees was published in the October 2009 issue of American Bee Journal.

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

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Board. Sent free to citizens on request.

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